

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-30 are pending and stand ready for further action on the merits. Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found in cancelled claim 3. Claims 4, 5, 21-23 and 27 have been amended for clarity. No new matter has been added by way of the above-amendment.

Issues Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 4, 5, 8, 9, 21, 22, 23 and 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph for being indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Examiner objects to claim 4 for reciting the term "and" at line 3. In response, Applicants have amended claim 4 by replacing the term "and" with the term "or".

The Examiner objects to claim 4 for not clearly reciting which polymer has a flexural modulus of 100 MPa or less. In response, Applicants have amended claim 4, at line 2, by inserting the phrase "having a flexural modulus of 100 MPa or less" after the phrase "a polypropylene resin". Also, Applicants have deleted the phrase "as said resin having a flexural modulus of 100 MPa or less" from line 4 of claim 4.

The Examiner objects to the word "and" at line 5 of claim 5. In response, Applicants have replaced the word "and" with word "or".

The Examiner objects to claim 5 for not clearly reciting which polymer has a flexural modulus of 100 MPa or less. In response, Applicants have amended claim 5 to recite that the intermediate layer comprises a polypropylene resin having a flexural modulus of 100 MPa or less. Support for this amendment can be found at page 11, lines 7-13 wherein the polypropylene resin in the intermediate layer is described as having this flexural modulus and not the polypropylene resin contained in the surface layers of the intermediate layer.

The Examiner objects to claims 8 and 9 for being duplicate claims. In response, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 9 is not an exact duplicate of claim 8, since claim 9 does not recite that the thermoplastic resin composition has a flexural modulus of 200 MPa or less as required in claim 8.

The Examiner objects to claim 21 for reciting "polypropylene resins" at line 2. The Examiner finds that claim 17, the claim from which claim 21 depends, does not recite "polypropylene resins". In response, Applicants have amended claim 21 by replacing line 2 with "wherein said resin composition of the layer A and said resin composition of the layer C each further comprises an".

The Examiner objects to claim 22 for not clearly indicating that the subject matter of claim 22 further limits the subject matter of claim 17. In response, Applicants have amended claim

22 at line 2 by replacing the phrase "wherein said polypropylene resin of the layer B comprises" with "wherein said resin composition of the layer B further comprises". Also, the Examiner objects to line 3 of claim 22 for reciting the phrase "an ethylene-propylene-butene copolymer". In response, Applicants have amended line 3 of claim 22 by replacing this phrase with "an ethylene-propylene-butene terpolymer".

The Examiner objects to claim 23 at line 2 for reciting the phrase "contains". In response, Applicants have amended line 2 of claim 23 by replacing the phrase "wherein said polypropylene resin of the layer B contains an" with "wherein said resin composition of the layer B further comprises an".

The Examiner objects to lines 8 and 9 of claim 27 for reciting the phrase ", which are surface layers, both have a polypropylene resin content of 60% by weight or more". In response, Applicants have replaced lines 8-9 of claim 27 with the phrase "said layers A' and C' have a polypropylene resin content of 60% by weight or more and both are surface layers, and".

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as presently amended, particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Issues Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Meilhon et al., U.S. 5,356,677. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is rendered moot in view of the above amendment wherein claim 1 has been amended to recite the subject matter of claim 3, a claim not currently under rejection, and have cancelled claim 3. Applicants believe that no further comments regarding this matter are necessary.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and comments, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. A notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this application, he is requested to contact Garth M. Dahlen, Ph.D. (#43,575) at the offices of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees

required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 3 has been cancelled.

1. (Amended) A wrap film comprising a thermoplastic resin composition and having an elongation at break in the longitudinal direction of less than 100% and a strength at 5% elongation in the longitudinal direction of 150 cN/10 mm or less; wherein said thermoplastic resin composition contains a resin having a flexural modulus of 100 MPa or less.

4. (Amended) The wrap film according to claim [3] 1, wherein said thermoplastic resin composition comprises a polypropylene resin having a flexural modulus of 100 MPa or less and at least one of an ethylene-propylene rubber [and] or an ethylene- $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer in which the  $\alpha$ -olefin has 4 or more carbon atoms [as said resin having a flexural modulus of 100 MPa or less].

5. (Amended) The wrap film according to claim [3] 1, which is a stretched multilayer film having an intermediate layer and a first and a second surface layer provided on each side of the intermediate layer, wherein said surface layers comprise a polypropylene resin, and said intermediate layer comprises a polypropylene resin having a flexural modulus of 100 MPa or less and at least one of an ethylene-propylene rubber [and] or an

ethylene- $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer in which the  $\alpha$ -olefin has 4 or more carbon atoms [as said resin having a flexural modulus of 100 MPa or less].

21. (Amended) The biaxially stretched multilayer polypropylene film according to claim 17, wherein said [polypropylene resins] resin composition of the layer A and said resin composition of the layer C each further comprises [comprise] an ethylene-propylene copolymer or an ethylene-propylene-butene [copolymer] terpolymer, and the DSC peak melting temperatures of said resin compositions making the layer A and layer C are 145°C or lower.

22. (Amended) The biaxially stretched multilayer polypropylene film according to claim 17, wherein said [polypropylene] resin composition of the layer B further comprises an ethylene-propylene copolymer or an ethylene-propylene-butene [copolymer] terpolymer, and the DSC peak melting temperature of said resin composition [making] of the layer B is 150°C or lower.

23. (Amended) The biaxially stretched multilayer polypropylene film according to claim 17, wherein said [polypropylene] resin composition of the layer B [contains] further comprises an amorphous polypropylene copolymer having a Shore D hardness of 55 or smaller.

27. (Amended) A biaxially stretched polyolefin multilayer film for wrapping which is obtained by simultaneous biaxial stretching of a sheet having at least layer A', layer B' and layer C' in this order, wherein

said stretched film has an elongation at break of 120% or less in both the machine direction and the transverse direction as measured according to JIS Z1712, a tensile modulus of 150 to 450 MPa in both the machine direction and the transverse direction as measured according to JIS Z1712, and a thickness of 8 to 15  $\mu\text{m}$ ,

said layers A' and C' [, which are surface layers, both] have a polypropylene resin content of 60% by weight or more and both are surface layers, and

said layer B', which is an intermediate layer, is made of a polyolefin resin or a polyolefin resin mixture.